

a first data I/O means which is [an] a first I/O interface for said image data and [various types of] control data, and

a first synchronizing signal generating means, for generating a first [frequency] synchronization signal, comprising a first crystal oscillator,

*a*  
wherein said first I/O interface receives said image data and said first synchronization signal and transfers said control data to said image reading means and said first synchronization signal generating means, and said image reading means receives said first synchronization signal;

a printer module formed as an independent frame, [having] comprising,

an image forming means for forming and outputting [an] said image data as a permanent visual image on a recording medium,

a second data I/O means which is [an] a second I/O interface for said image data and [various types of] said control data, and

a second synchronizing signal generating means, for generating a second [frequency] synchronization signal, comprising a second crystal oscillator,

wherein said second I/O interface receives said image data and said second synchronization signal and transfers said control data to said image forming means and said second synchronization signal generating means, and said

image forming means receives said second synchronization signal; and

a system control module formed as an independent frame, [having] comprising,

a third data I/O means which is [an] a third I/O interface for said image data and [various types of] said control data, and

a system control means for [running] controlling said scanner module and said printer module synchronously and generating said control data;

said third I/O interface transferring said control data to said first and second I/O interfaces; and

said first and second crystal oscillator having substantially a same frequency, so that said first and second synchronization signals and said image reading and image forming means are synchronized with each other for maintaining coincidence between cycles and header phases of said image data that is read and formed.

2. (Amended) A copying system according to claim 1, wherein [a] said frame for said system control module is [formed monolithically] integrated with [a] said frame [for] of said scanner module or [a that for] said frame of said printer module.

3. (Amended) A copying system according to claim 1, [having] further comprising a coupling means [fr] for fixing [a] said frame [for] of said [scanner] system control module and [that for] said frame of said printer module or said

scanner module so as to align said third data I/O section with said first and second data I/O sections.

4. (Amended) A copying system according to claim 1, comprising a first electric power supply means in [a] said frame [for] of said scanner module and a second electric power supply means in [a] said frame [for] of said printer module and wherein said system control module receives power from said first or second power supply means.

5. (Amended) A copying system according to claim 1, wherein [data is transmitted or received with an arraying means for arraying]

said scanner module, printer module and system control [controller] module further comprise a transmitting and receiving means for transmitting and receiving said image and control data,

each module is provided at a specified position [respectively, as well as with a] by said fixing means so that said first, second, and third data I/O sections provided in each module [described above respectively and for data I/O between each module in a state where said modules are arrayed with said arraying means,] are aligned through a space for data reception and transmission [transaction, and] by means of any one of light waves, electric waves, [or supersonic] and sonic waves through said space.--

Please add new Claims 6-11 as follows:

--6. A copying system comprising:

a scanner module, formed as an independent frame,  
comprising,

an image reader configured to read a manuscript  
picture by resolving a picture image into pixels, and  
configured to generate image data,

a first data I/O device configured as a first I/O  
interface for said image data and control data, and

a first synchronizing signal generator, configured  
to generate a first synchronization signal which controls  
operational timing of said image reader, comprising a first  
crystal oscillator,

wherein said first I/O interface receives said image data  
and said first synchronization signal and transfers said  
control data to said image reader and said first  
synchronization signal generator, and said image reader  
receives said first synchronization signal;

a printer module, formed as an independent frame,  
comprising,

an image former configured to form and output said  
image data as a permanent visual image on a recording medium,

a second data I/O device configured as a second I/O  
interface for said image data and said control data, and

a second synchronizing signal generator, configured  
to generate a second synchronization signal which controls  
operational timing of said image former, comprising a second  
crystal oscillator,

wherein said second I/O interface receives said image data and said second synchronization signal and transfers said control data to said image former and said second synchronization signal generator, and said image former receives said second synchronization signal; and

a system control module, formed as an independent frame, comprising,

Q2 a third data I/O device configured as a third I/O interface for said image data and said control data, and

a system controller configured to control said scanner module and said printer module synchronously, and to generate said control data;

said third I/O interface transferring said control data to said first and second I/O interfaces; and

said first and second crystal oscillator having substantially a same frequency, so that said first and second synchronization signals and said image reader and image former are synchronized with each other, and configured to maintain coincidence between cycles and header phases of said image data that is read and formed.

7. A copying system according to claim 6, comprising:  
a scanner module in which the first I/O interface includes an SCSI interface; and

a host computer including an SCSI interface;  
wherein

the copying system is configured as a scanner and the first I/O interface directly communicates with the host computer via the SCSI interface to deliver read image data.

8. A copying system according to claim 6, comprising:  
a printer module in which the second I/O interface includes an SCSI interface; and

a host computer including an SCSI interface;  
wherein

the copying system is configured as a bit-map laser printer and the second I/O interface directly communicates with the host computer via the SCSI interface to obtain image data from the host computer to form a hard copy.

9. A copying system according to claim 6, comprising:  
a scanner module in which the first I/O interface includes an SCSI interface;

a printer module in which the second I/O interface includes first and second SCSI interfaces; and

a system control module in which the third I/O interface includes an SCSI interface, including a copy processor;  
wherein

the copying system is configured as a general copying machine, the scanner module is connected to the printer module via the first SCSI interface, the system control module is connected to the control module via the second SCSI interface, and the copy processor of the system control module controls the scanner module and the printer module to realize the general copying function.

10. A copying system according to claim 6, comprising:  
a first scanner module in which the first I/O interface includes an SCSI interface, configured to handle a first paper size; and

a second scanner module in which the first I/O interface includes first and second SCSI interfaces, configured to handle a second paper size ;

a third scanner modules in which the first I/O interface includes first and second SCSI interfaces, configured as a color scanner;

Q2 a printer module in which the second I/O interface includes first and second SCSI interfaces; and

a system control module in which the third I/O interface includes an SCSI interface, including a copy processor;

wherein

the copying system is configured as a triple read copying machine, the SCSI interface of the first scanner module is connected to the first SCSI interface of the second scanner module, the second SCSI interface of the second scanner module is connected to the first SCSI interface of the third scanner module, the second SCSI interface of the third scanner module is connected to the first SCSI interface of the printer module, the second SCSI interface of the printer module is connected to the SCSI interface of the system control module, and the copy processor of the system control module controls the first, second and third scanner modules and the printer module to realize the triple read copying function.

11. A copying system according to claim 6, comprising:  
a scanner module in which the first I/O interface  
includes an SCSI interface, configured as a color scanner ;  
a printer module in which the second I/O interface  
includes first and second SCSI interfaces;

a system control module in which the third I/O interface  
includes an SCSI interface module, including a computer  
interface port, a printer processor, an ISDN interface, and a  
color facsimile processor; and

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a host computer including an computer interface port;  
wherein

Concl'd  
the copying system is configured as a high performance  
copier, color printer, and facsimile hybrid system, the  
scanner module is connected to the first SCSI interface of the  
printer module, the second SCSI interface of the printer  
module is connected to the SCSI interface of the system  
control module, the system control module is connected to the  
host computer via the computer interface port, the system  
control module is connected to a public ISDN line via the ISDN  
interface, and the printer processor converts print data in a  
page description language format received from the computer  
interface port to laser data, the color facsimile processor  
extracts data in a specified compression format received from  
the ISDN interface and compresses image data read by the  
scanner module in a specified format to realize the high  
performance copier, color printer, and facsimile hybrid  
system.--

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